Trees and water are both precious resources. Trees make our houses feel like home—they also improve property values, clean our water & air, and even make our streets safer & quieter. When we water wisely and maintain our trees carefully, we enjoy a wide range of benefits at a low cost and with little effort.

YOUNG TREES
The roots of younger trees are less established & need easier access to water to establish deep root systems.

MATURE TREES
Mature trees require MORE water when growing near heat traps such as driveways & foundations.

EXPOSED TREES
Water loss is greater where trees are exposed to hot afternoon sun & strong or constant wind.

DECIDUOUS TREES
The critical time for water is during later winter/early spring when new buds and leaves are forming.

THE RIGHT AMOUNT
Water young trees twice per week (about 5 gallons) & mature trees once per week in several places (the equivalent of 1 to 1.5 inches of rain).

IN THE RIGHT PLACE
Water the “drip zone,” area directly beneath the foliage & shaded by the tree. Also, add mulch to lower soil temperatures & reduce water evaporation.

CONSERVE & RECYCLE WATER
Inside: Place buckets in the shower to collect warm up water. Recycle water from the dehumidifier, collect air conditioning condensation, & “save a flush” to conserve. Outside: Convert irrigation systems to drip, low-flow or micro spray & fix leaks.

THE RIGHT TIME
Water early in the morning or after the sun has set, as this is when trees replace the water they’ve lost during the day. Also less water is lost to evaporation at these times. Mulching your tree will also keep soils warmer in winter & cooler in summer.

DON’T WASTE WATER
Water should soak into the ground rather than running off into the drain.

THE RIGHT CHOICE
Plant native or drought resistant tree species that require less water. Choose trees over lawn, as trees are a long-term investment.

BE WATER-WISE.
IT’S EASY.
HERE’S HOW.

Help Your Trees Survive the Drought

THE RIGHT WAY
During drought, water directly with a hose or 5-gallon bucket.

THE RIGHT DEPTH
Deep watering helps deep root growth & healthier trees.